



EPA Activities to Support Forecasting

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FEAR

Until You Have The Courage To Lose Sight Of The Shore,
You Will Not Know The Terror Of Being Forever Lost At Sea.

AIRNOW SYSTEM SHUTDOWN



Matrix of Activities

- Short Air Quality Forecasting Course
- PM_{2.5} Forecasting Pilot Project
- PM Forecasting Guidance Document
- AIRNow Air Quality Forecast Submittal System
- AIRNow web based data access
- The future



Short Course on Air Quality Forecasting

- First time offered at the Conference – 100+ attendees
- Depending upon your feedback.....(and \$)
 - Repeat (and enhance?) at 2003 Conference
 - Develop web based training on AIRNow
 - Conduct regional workshops for intermediate level training?



PM_{2.5} Forecasting Pilot Project

- **Pittsburgh and Salt Lake City – for 2 months**
- **Develop PM_{2.5} climatologies**
- **Select predictor variables based upon statistical analyses**
- **Issue current and next day 24-hr average PM_{2.5} maximum for each city 7 days/week**
- **Evaluation and validation of forecasts**
- **Incorporate experience and recommendations into guidance document**



PM_{2.5} Forecasting Guidance Document

- **Similar to the Guidelines for Developing an Ozone Forecasting Program**
- **Interview agencies and existing programs**
- **Conduct literature reviews**
- **Survey of Public Outreach Coordinators to determine the needs and requirements for PM_{2.5} forecasts.**
- **Incorporate Pilot project experience**



New AIRNow Air Quality Forecast Submittal System

- **Old System - text based – and not flexible**
- **New System**
 - **Cold Fusion based – more robust**
 - **Forecasts up to five separate dates
(current day plus the next four days)**
 - **Default forecasts for extended period
of time**
 - **Default pollutant choice**
 - **Default comments (discussion text)**



New AIRNow Air Quality Forecast Submittal System

- **Provide basic trend analysis (i.e., show previous day(s) forecasts**
- **May have a section dedicated to available meteorological and forecasting product resources**
- **Now is the time for INPUT!**



AIRNow Data Access

- Allow States/Locals to access the AIRNow Oracle database via the web
- Enable forecasters to observe current conditions (including surrounding areas) to see what is happening in the region
- Custom reporting - view trends or historical data and agency settings

AIR Tomorrow?

- **Improve the AIRNow system**
 - Expand geographic coverage
 - Improve timeliness of the maps
 - Web based access to the data
 - Robust Forecast Submittal System
 - Enhance mapping products (GIS based mapping and/or pop up boxes with maps (multiple views))
- **Incorporate PM_{2.5} component**
 - Include mapping or graphical display of raw PM_{2.5} data
 - Revise AIRNow software to manipulate PM_{2.5}
 - Improve forecast abilities for PM_{2.5} and coverage